

LibriVox



IN EXCELSIS  
*by*  
*Lord Alfred Douglas*

***In Excelsis* by Lord Alfred Douglas**

**Recorded by Rob Marland (running time: 00:26:55)**

In 1924, Lord Alfred Douglas was sued by Winston Churchill after he alleged that the politician had been part of a Jewish-backed conspiracy to commit various acts of wartime misconduct. Douglas lost the case and was jailed for six months. During his time at Wormwood Scrubs, Douglas wrote a sonnet sequence that he would title *In Excelsis* (in the highest), a reversal of the title of the prison letter written by his former lover, Oscar Wilde (*De Profundis* - from the depths). Douglas claims in the preface to the volume that the poems are spiritual in nature. They also include poorly disguised attacks on Wilde and support for anti-Semitic conspiracy theories. (Summary by Rob Marland.)

Cover image: photograph of Lord Alfred Douglas, the frontispiece of *Oscar Wilde and Myself* by Lord Alfred Douglas. This image is in the public domain. Cover design by Rob Marland. This design is in the public domain.